## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN SOUTHERN DIVISION

R2 TECHNOLOGIES CORPORATION, DBA R2 TECHNOGIES, a GEORGIA CORPORATION,

Plaintiff/Counter-Defendant,

Case No. 2:18-cv-11456 Hon. David M. Lawson

VS.

#### DEEPAK BANGALORE NAGARAJ,

#### Defendant/Counter-Plaintiff.

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Raymond J. Sterling (P34456)

# ANSWER TO PLAINTIFF'S CORRECTED FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT, AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES, AND COUNTERCLAIM

Defendant/Counter-Plaintiff Deepak Bangalore Nagaraj<sup>1</sup>, by his attorneys Sterling Attorneys at Law, P.C., for his Answer to Plaintiff's Corrected First Amended Complaint (hereinafter "Complaint"), Affirmative Defenses and Counterclaim, states as follows:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Defendant/Counter-Plaintiff's last name is misspelled in the caption and body of the Complaint. The correct spelling is Nagaraj, not "Najarah" or "Najaraj."

## **PARTIES**

- 1. Defendant/Counter-Plaintiff lacks knowledge and information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations set forth in Paragraph 1 of the Complaint, and leaves Plaintiff to its proofs.
- 2. Defendant/Counter-Plaintiff admits the allegations set forth in Paragraph 2 of the Complaint.

### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

- 3. Defendant/Counter-Plaintiff incorporates the preceding paragraphs by reference.
- 4. Defendant/Counter-Plaintiff admits the allegations set forth in Paragraph 4 of the Complaint.

#### **GENERAL ALLEGATIONS**

- 5. Defendant/Counter-Plaintiff incorporates the preceding paragraphs by reference.
- 6. Defendant/Counter-Plaintiff admits the allegations set forth in Paragraph 6 of the Complaint.
- 7. Defendant/Counter-Plaintiff denies the allegations set forth in Paragraph 7 of the Complaint.

#### **COUNT I- BREACH OF CONTRACT**

8. Defendant/Counter-Plaintiff incorporates the preceding paragraphs by reference.

9. Defendant/Counter-Plaintiff denies the allegations set forth in Paragraph 9 of the Complaint.

#### **COUNT II - INJUNCTIVE RELIEF**

- 10. Defendant/Counter-Plaintiff incorporates the preceding paragraphs by reference.
- 11. Defendant/Counter-Plaintiff denies the allegations set forth in Paragraph 11 of the Complaint.

#### INCORPORATION OF ORIGINAL COMPLAINT

12. Paragraph 12 of the Complaint sets forth no allegation of facts to which a response is required. To the extent any response is necessary, Defendant/Counter-Plaintiff denies the allegations.

## **AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES**

- 1. Plaintiff fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted.
- 2. The agreement between the parties is not enforceable due to a failure of consideration.
- 3. The Non-Competition provision of the agreement exceed Plaintiff's reasonable competitive business interests.
- 4. The Non-Competition provision of the agreement violates public policy and should not be enforced.

- 5. To the extent Plaintiff can prove a breach of the contract, Plaintiff's damages are limited by the liquidated damages clause in the Paragraph 8 of the contract.
- 6. Plaintiff's claim is barred in whole or part by the doctrine of unclean hands.
  - 7. Plaintiff has failed to mitigate its damages.
- 8. Plaintiff has not and will not suffer irreparable damages and there is no basis for injunctive relief.

#### **COUNTERCLAIM**

Defendant/Counter-Plaintiff Deepak Bangalore Nagaraj ("Nagaraj"), by his attorneys Sterling Attorneys at Law, P.C., for his counterclaim against Plaintiff/Counter-Defendant R2 Technologies Corporation ("R2"), states as follows:

- 1. R2 is an "employer" as defined by the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 USC 203(d) ("FLSA").
- 2. From August 29, 2016 until November 12, 2017, R2 employed Nagaraj as a Programmer Analyst and agreed to pay him \$33.79 an hour plus \$112.96 per diem.
- 3. From October 1, 2017 until November 12, 2017, Nagaraj provided 240 hours of work for R2.

- 4. R2 never paid Nagaraj for this work he performed or paid his per diem.
- 5. R2 and Nagaraj had an express agreement that R2 would pay Nagaraj \$33.79 an hour for all hours that he worked plus a per diem of \$112.96 for all days that he performed work on behalf of R2.
- 6. R2 breached its agreement by not compensating Nagaraj for this work.
- 7. R2 willfully withheld Nagaraj's wages and overtime compensation in violation of Section 29 USC 255(a) of the FLSA.
- 8. Nagaraj is also entitled to an award of reasonable attorney fees and costs pursuant to 29 USC 216(b).
- 9. Under the doctrine of quantum meruit, R2 reaped an unfair benefit by failing to pay Nagaraj for these services.
- 10. Inequity and injustice will result if R2 retains the benefit of Nagaraj's services without compensating him.
  - 11. Nagaraj is entitled to payment for all uncompensated hours.

WHEREFORE, Defendant/Counter-Plaintiff Nagaraj respectfully requests that this Honorable Court grant him the following relief:

A. An award under 29 USC 216(b) for unpaid wages and overtime compensation, together with liquidated damages in an amount equal to his actual damages;

- B. Attorney fees and costs;
- C. Interest as an element of damages; and
- D. Such further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

### **JURY DEMAND**

Defendant/Counter-plaintiff Deepak Bangalore Nagaraj, by his attorneys, Sterling Attorneys at Law, P.C., requests a trial by jury.

#### **PROOF OF SERVICE**

I certify that on July 10, 2018, I filed the foregoing paper with the Clerk of the Court using the e-filing system which will electronically send notification to all attorneys of record.

/s/Brian J. Farrar

Sterling Attorneys at Law, P.C. 33 Bloomfield Hills Pkwy., Ste. 250 Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304 (248) 644-1500 Respectfully submitted,

STERLING ATTORNEYS AT LAW, P.C.

By: /s/Brian J. Farrar

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